

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SECTO 02013 162247Z
ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PA-02 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 CCO-00
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-----162251Z 069692 /67

O 162230Z FEB 77 ZFF4
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTO 02013

FOR S/PRS; DEPT. PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI AND
WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.), PFOR, IS, XF, US
SUBJECT: TOAST BY SECRETARY VANCE AT KNESSET DINNER
FEBRUARY 16, 1977

1. MR. MINISTER, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:
TODAY HAS BEEN A MEMORABLE AND MOVING DAY FOR
ME. IT BEGAN WHEN I AWOKE AND LOOKED OUT MY
WINDOW TO SEE THE SUN RISING ABOVE THE WALLS OF
THE OLD CITY IN ALL OF ITS BEAUTY. I WAS DEEPLY
MOVED LATER IN THE MORNING WHEN I ATTENDED
THE MEMORIAL OF THE HOLOCAUST. IT IS HARD TO
BELIEVE THAT SOMETHING LIKE THAT COULD EVER HAVE
TAKEN PLACE ON THE GLOBE. IT IS A TRAGIC
CHAPTER IN OUR HISTORY THAT SHOULD NEVER
BE REPEATED.
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2. I DEEPLY APPRECIATED THE MEETINGS WHICH
I HAD DURING THE DAY, STARTING WITH A MEETING
WITH YOUR PRIME MINISTER AND THEN WITH THE
OTHER LEADERS OF YOUR COUNTRY. THEY FULFILLED
MY FONDEST EXPECTATIONS. THEY WERE CONDUCTED
WITH FRANKNESS AND SINCERITY AND I CAME AWAY

FROM THEM WITH AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE POSITION
OF YOUR LEADERS AND OF THE CONCERNS WHICH YOU
HAVE.

3. I NOW WILL GO TO THE OTHER CAPITALS IN
THESE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND WILL LEARN FROM
THE LEADERS OF THOSE COUNTRIES THEIR VIEWS
ABOUT THE SEARCH FOR PEACE. MY PRUPOSE WHEN I
CAME UPON THIS TRIP WAS TO LEARN HOW WE, THE
U.S., MIGHT BETTER SERVE TO FACILITATE THE
RPOCESS OF STARTING THE SEARCH FOR PEACE AND
THEN HELPING TO MOVE IT TOWARDS THE CONCLUSION
WHICH WE ALL SO DEEPLY PRAY FOR.

4. WE ARE DEEPLY COMMITTED TO PLAYING A ROLE
IN HELPING ACHIEVE THIS END. LET THERE BE NO
DOUBT OF THAT. WE SHALL WORK WITH YOU IN FULL
CONSULTATION AS WE WILL WITH THE LEADERS
OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH WILL BE INVOLVED.

5. THE ROAD WILL NOT BE AN EASY ONE AND I
AM SURE THAT PEACE CANNOT BE ACHIEVED QUICKLY
BUT THAT SHOULD NOT DETER US FROM COMMENCING
THIS PROCESS AND FROM DEVOTING EVERY EFFORT
THAT WE HAVE TO MOVE TO THIS END.

6. WE SHALL PERSEVERE. WE SHARE YOUR DREAM
OF PEACE AND TOGETHER IN THE END I BELIEVE IT
CAN BE ACHIEVED. SO I RAISE MY GLASS AND DRINK
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TO YOU, MR. MINISTER, AND TO THE PEOPLES OF
OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND TO PEACE.
VANCE

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